The Albany Register.

[From the Daily Oregonian.]

OREGON.

ITS GEOGRAPAY, CLIMATE, LANDS, TIMBER, ANIMALS, GAME, FRUITS, MARKETS, ROADS, WAGES, RAIL AND SCHOOL FACILITIES, CHURCHES, MANUFACTURES, COMMERCE AND TRADE, PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, TAXES, ETC. MISCELLANEOUS USEFUL INFORMATION.

PORTLAND, OREGON, Dec. 29, 1869.

A goodly number of Oregonians have made the trip to and from the States east of the Mississippi all the way to the Atlantic seaboard, within the past year, by the great overland railway, and in whatever else they differ as to what they have seen or heard in the various sections they have visited or tarried, they all unite in saying that in nothing was their pride of home more wounded or their ideas of the geographical intelligence of their countrymen on that side more at fault than in matters and information concerning Oregon. Scarcely anywhere did any of them meet people who knew of the geographical location of this State or its notable features, either as to natural resources or that which the labor and enterprise and skill of man has developed. Even in New England, so boasted for the enlightenment of its masses, almost nothing seems to be known of Oregon, save it be apocryfical scraps derived from poets, or the very imperfect sketchings of that class of fashionable tourists who care more for the harmonious flow of tropes and the graceful rounding of periods in all they pretend to sketch, than for facts, realities, and the pains-taking, earnest, intelligent description of the country through which they have passed. Theirs may well be termed "birds-eye views," inasmuch as the writers appear only to have skimmed over the land without ever alighting from the wing to mingle with the inhabitants, to learn of the trade, business and labor industries; or of the resources and wants, and what has been done toward the development of the one or the supplying of the other. Yet New England forms no exception to the rule. North and South, East and West, the same want of information concerning Oregon was discovered. Even in Illinois, Iowa and Missouri, from which States the great majority of the pioneer settlers of the wilds of Oregon emigrated, there appears to be quite as much ignorance of the country as in other portions from whence there has been but little or no emigration hither.

In view of this condition of things on that side of the continent, perhaps it will not be deemed inappropriate, or labor lost, to here give, in such a way as the brief limits of a newspaper's columns will allow, some *facts* pertaining to Oregon in a general way.

Though sparsely populated, the State presents throughout its whole extent, a wealth of resources not excelled by any in the Union. Oregon has her rivers, numerous smaller streams, extensive and exceedingly lovely valleys; vast undulating lands, mighty forests of trees, valuable for ship building, for lumber, and for fuel, and high mountains, here and there topped by gigantic peaks whose summits wear perpetual snow—as Bierstadt's "Mount Hood" grandly tells the world. She has rich mines of gold—placer and quartz, and also of iron and copper, and great coal beds—some already developed which have been profitably worked for ten years past. And so she has as fertile and prolific farming lands, and as luxurious grazing fields as are known on the habitable globe.

To illustrate the surpassing richness of the soil, the product of her wheat alone in the past twenty years can be instanced. There are fields in the Willamette valley which have been sown with wheat almost continuously for this many years, and yet a failure of so little as a "half crop" has never been known; and the average produce of these fields has been fully thirty-five bushels to the acre. Other crops have succeeded as well, and at this day the same lands which have so constantly and abundantly rendered profit to their owners, seem as fresh and as fertile as though they had been just subjected to the plow and harrow. It is in wheat and oats that Oregon excels; yet, excellent crops of barley, rye, and flax, good corn and tobacco, and superior hay can be raised in every portion of the State; and in the hardy fruits—apples, pears, plums and cherries—she has certainly no superior, if an equal, in any part of the United States. Superior pine, oak, ash, cedar, fir, maple, yew and laurel, are among her most valued woods; and cottonwood and willow, juniper and tamarac, abound along her rivers, or in her wildest mountain lands.

No country can surpass, few, if, any, can compare with Oregon in the variety, the quality and the great abundance of wild game, whether winged, or quadruped, or of the finny tribes—of mountain and forest, of valley or prairie, or of tide or inland waters. Along the banks of the Willamette and lower Columbia the sportsman can readily bag canvass-back as fine as those noted fowl of the Chesapeake, and, also, throughout the interior, splendid mallard, teal, red-bill, and wood duck, wild geese, curlew, grouse, pheasant, jack-snipe, quail—and in Eastern Oregon, prairie chicken and sage-hens. The hunter can readily find black-tail and other deer, elk, brown and black and cinnamon bear, jackass rabbits, hare, squirrels, and, for peltry, otter and beaver. The salmon and sturgeon of the Columbia river are noted among the most delicious of the species found in any part of the globe, while the brook and mountain trout, the salmon trout, the smelt, perch, and other varieties of small or pan fish, are of excellent quality, and are found in unequalled abundance.

The markets in every city and town throughout the State present a very tempting appearance. In meats there are—fat, tender and juicy beef, really superior in grain and flavor to most of the stall-fed beef of the States, east; excellent mutton, veal and lamb, and pork of that first quality which has won for Oregon hams the reputation of being the very best in the California market. In game, can be seen, in the respective seasons, the wild game mentioned above, together with fine barnyard poultry. And in vegetables and fruits, an endless variety of every esculent, relish and species for pickle, from potatoes to cranberries, and from onions to horseradish, with luscious wild and cultivated strawberries and blackberries, raspberries, whortleberries, sarvis and thimble and salmon berries, wild and cultivated grapes, and such apples and pears as are rarely or never seen in the older States; besides peaches, quinces, plums, cherries and apricots of good qualities.

The large and fine stock ranges of the Willamette, Yamhill and Umpqua valleys, and of the Tualatin and Clatsop Plains, were in early years sorely subject to the ravages of jaguars (or panthers), wolves, and other destructive wild animals; but so thoroughly have they been hunted that it is very rarely sheep are now-a-days molested in the fold, and the horned cattle graze as free from danger as if under their owners's sheds.

Much attention is given to the breeding of thoroughbred and good blood stock in Oregon—horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs, and in the eastern division of the State, to the breeding of fine mules also. Noted sires and dams have been brought from Kentucky and other States to improve the already good native stock of horses and from these have sprung splendid racers, fast trotters and roadsters, and carriage and draft and work horses of such quality as to command the highest prices in the horse markets of California and Nevada. Durham and other famous breeds of cattle have been brought from Illinois, New York and New Jersey; also the best breeds of Spanish and French Merinos, Cotswolds, Southdown, and other celebrated or favorite sheep, from Vermont, New York, England and Australia, for wool and mutton both; and White Cheshire, Essex and Berkshire hogs, are to be found throughout the State, imported direct from England or the East.

There are, generally, very good roads in every section of the State, and nearly all are county or "free" roads. Toll gates, except in the region of the mines in Eastern Oregon, are rarely encountered, and at the few unfordable streams which are not bridged, the ferriage charges are restricted to low rates by the County Commissioners. The great highway which leads all the way from Portland to Sacramento, in California—a total of nearly 700 miles, of which quite half is in Oregon—and over which the daily four-horse mail stages travel, has but one toll gate in this 300 and odd miles. The character of the road can be pretty well estimated when it is known that during eight months of the year the whole distance through between Portland and Sacramento is made in five and a half days, and during the wet or winter season in from eight to ten days, as the weather happens to be more or less severe, by the daily mail stages. From almost every portion of every county to the county seat, or to the marketing towns, there are regularly laid out roads, kept in good repair by the district supervisors.

Building material is cheap all over the State, and readily obtained. Good brick can be made in almost every township, and the facilities for getting good lumber are scarcely to be surpassed. Wages of mechanics are high, compared with those of any other class, and while farm hands command far better wages than in the States East, there is a want of this class of working men, especially in the grain harvest season—from July to October.

The mail and express accommodations throughout Oregon are quite ample, and each supply daily communication between all the principal towns within the State, and between this and all the States and Territories.

Churches, school houses and institutions of learning of high grades, and numerous public schools, are established in every city, town and settlement. Almost every Christian denomination has its churches or meeting houses, and the Jews their synagogues; and there are colleges, academies, seminaries and high schools, under the especial care of Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Roman Catholics, Unitarians and Jews—for the education and moral training of boys and girls, of youths and young ladies.

Of physicians, surgeons, dentists, of lawyers, and other professional men, there is—to use an Oregon expression—a multitude. In fact, the professions are overdone—of physic, for the lack of patients, by reason of the extraordinary healthfulness of the country; and of law, because the people are inclined to compromise difficulties of a civil nature rather by neighborly arbitration than in courts of law; and the criminal calendar of the whole State is, perhaps, the smallest in the Union.

In the matter of manufactories and similar enterprises, Oregon has pursued the slow and very sure policy in past years, and if she seemingly has departed from that within the year just closing and taken up the more go-ahead style, it is not because her people have been lured from the pursuit of substantial enterprises by the glittering attractions of speculators, but simply because the unprecedented progress of development of her great and many resources has actually demanded the surprising advancement noted, and which has been fully sustained in every particular by the gratifying exhibits of wholesome prosperity that have accompanied these various enterprises. It is a noteworthy fact, in connection with this subject, that there has never occurred a failure nor an abandonment of any important undertaking in Oregon, and that in no instance has there happened a failure of any large commercial house, of any banking establishment, of any capitalist, nor of any incorporation or individual, whose business was of such a nature to cause insolvency or disaster to any other house, or a material loss to the community generally. And yet, Oregon has her banks, local and National, her large steam navigation corporations, ocean shipping companies, woolen factories, linseed oil mills, iron works, engine and machine shops and foundries, capable of turning out the heaviest works, ship yards in which handsome river steamers and large coasting vessels are built, and various other incorporations and considerable enterprises—to say nothing of her numerous flouring mills, some of which will vie with the best in any other State, and the flour from which—as the Imperial, the Standard, the Magnolia, Vaughn's, and the Salem mills—has won first rank in the New York market, under, shame to say, the name of "California flour." And finally, Oregon has now the first twenty miles of the line of railway completed, and the engines and cars running, which is to be continued through the whole length of the State, thence through California to connect with the Central Pacific road, and thus place us in direct communication with our sister states of the Pacific, and the States across the Rocky Mountains.

There is an Insane Asylum for the care and safe keeping of that class of unfortunates, and so are there hospitals in several counties for the benefit and treatment of the indigent sick or crippled, but as the number of this class of patients is uncommonly small in Oregon, in contrast with that of other States, these public institutions cause only nominal tax upon the people. And, as a general rule, the same remark will apply to the county jails. Nor is the State Penitentiary a crowded institution, because the administration of justice is generally so thorough that the evil disposed are awed from the commission of crimes in many cases, and consequently flagrant offenses and heinous felonies are comparatively unfrequent. Burglaries and highway robberies, and arson, are exceedingly rare, and a "great robbery" has never occurred in this State. The preservation of peace and good order is so easily maintained in all the chief towns, that such a thing as a "police force" is not known, and Portland, with its population of thousands, its wharves teeming with sea-going men, and its streets trod by persons of almost every nationality, is under the surveilance of a police organization so small as to excite the remark and often the ridicule of visitors from the States on the other side of the continent; and yet this force, small as it is, is ample for the duty it is required to fulfill. Without sumptuary or stringent laws to restrain intemperance or enforce observance of the Sabbath, throughout Oregon drunkenness is rarely to be witnessed, and Sunday is everywhere observed as that day of rest and of religious devotion which the best moral sentiment of the Christian world commands. And there is not a poor-house in the State, because one is not needed.

There are lyceums, debating clubs and libraries for the entertainment and improvement in study of youths and men in the interior towns, and the Library Association of Portland, though in the very infancy of existence, has already—by the generosity of a leading pioneer citizen, W. S. Ladd—the handsomest and roomiest hall in the State, and a collection of books, paintings, periodicals, etc., which does infinite credit to the liberality of the donors, to the pride of the members, and to the judgment of the officers who selected all which constitutes and adorns the Library.

And in speaking of Portland, it is well to chronicle the fact that while she has only the population of a large town, as reckoned in the older States, she has all the improvements, conveniences and elements of a city. Clear, pure, icy cold, delicious water, is brought from mountain springs to the great reservoir in the suburbs of the city, and is thence distributed in mains and small pipes throughout the whole place, into the buildings wherever required, in generous plenty, for all uses at very low rates. Gas lights up the streets at night, at reasonable cost to the public, and is supplied to the stores and dwellings, hotels, theatres, and every class of public buildings, at fair charges. Good hotels, halls of amusement, elegant stores for the display of goods and wares, whole blocks of handsome business houses, beautiful and attractive residences in the prettiest and grandest styles of modern architecture, imposing looking churches, and Odd Fellows' hall which would be a credit to a city of ten-fold the population of Portland; commodious, extensive and well built and tightly roofed wharves and wharf sheds; the grand wharf and warehouse of the Oregon Steam Navigation Company, which has no equal in San Francisco, nor a superior in any city on the Atlantic; a Court House which in size, appearance and architectural display, is not surpassed on the coast; and fine public squares, eligibly located in different parts of the city, are among the objects which invite the attention and challenge the praise of those who come from other lands to visit the metropolis of Oregon.

The city enjoys the protection of a large, thoroughly equipped, very efficient Fire Department of steam and hand fire engines, ample hose carts, hooks and ladders, with commodious houses for each company, and lofty fire towers; and capacious cisterns are conveniently placed to afford a plentiful supply of water at a moment's warning. But fires are exceedingly rare, and in the period covering the whole existence of the city there has never occurred a conflagration of more than two or three buildings at one time.

A beautiful drive extends from Portland to the White House, over a smooth, broad macademized road, a distance of five miles, and all the way in sight of the Willamette river.

And in one particular all will agree, come from whatever section of the Union they may: It is that Portland has the best paved and cleanest streets of any town or city which can be named. The principal business thoroughfares are laid with Nicholson pavement, and a system carefully observed, of even grading, of broad streets laid out regularly as those of Philadelphia, with blocks all of a size, wide, uniform sidewalks, and shade or ornamental trees planted along the residence street—all combine to merit for Portland the praise of being not only the best paved, but one of the prettiest, neatest, most tastefully planned cities in the country.

To give an idea of the trade the city enjoys, a mere mention of the advantages is required. Situated on the Willamette, fourteen miles above where that river pours its waters into the mighty Columbia, somewhat more than a hundred miles above Columbia river bar, it is reached by and is the port for the ocean line of steamships which run weekly between San Francisco and Oregon, the weekly line of steamers from Victoria and Puget Sound, and the numerous sailing vessels, from full rigged ships to coasting schooners, which voyage regularly or on special charter from the Atlantic, European, or Asiatic ports, the Hawaiian Islands, California, or British Columbia. It is the port also from whence start and to which come the regular daily steam packets, carrying passengers, freight, mails and express, to and from Astoria and intermediate points on the Columbia river, connecting with the mail and passenger stages from Puget Sound via Olympia overland to Monticello in Washington Territory; to and from Fort Vancouver and Cascades, the Dalles and Umatilla and Wallula, on the upper Columbia, from whence connection is made overland by daily mail stages with Idaho and Montana and Utah Territories, and thence to the older States by railroad; to and from Oregon City and thence on the upper Willamette and the Yamhill rivers; and to and from which point also go and come the small steamer which plies on the Tualatin river toward the Coast range of mountains. The Oregon Steam Navigation Company, of which Capt. Ainsworth is President, control the steam traffic of the Columbia from its mouth to Wallula, a distance of nearly 400 miles, and thence up Snake river to Lewiston, Idaho, at the confluence of the Clearwater, 180 miles above Wallula; and also that between Monticello, on the Cowlitz, and Portland. The traffic from Portland, above on the Wallamette and Yamhill and Tualatin rivers, is controlled by the People's Transportation Company, A. A. McCully, President.

The climate of Oregon has been so frequently misrepresented by transient visitors and reckless tourists that justice requires a reference to the subject here. The nick-name of "Web-foot Nation" has been applied to the State, as if to indicate a condition of perpetual rain. The truth is that the annual rain-fall of Oregon is much less than that of almost any State in the West, or in the Atlantic States; that it is equal to only a very few, and is greater only than that of California and Nevada, and, perhaps, one or two other States. Judged from a California standpoint, Oregon is a wet country, but judged by the standard of Illinois, New York, or most of the States, she stands very fairly in the general average. Rain is scarcely known during the summer months or "dry season" in California. In Oregon there happens occasional, yet quite rare, showers during the summer months, and in the winter months, notwithstanding our high latitude, snow seldom falls to lay beyond a few days, while rain may be called the staple winter element. But there is no more healthful, more invigorating, more delightful climate under the sun than is to be enjoyed in Oregon during the spring, summer and autumn months. The hottest days are then succeeded by refreshingly cool nights, so that overheated and exhausted nature can be assured sweet repose and sound sleep. There are no dense, chilling, penetrating fogs damps during those months; no cold, ague-provoking rains; but instead there comes, once or twice each month, grateful showers to prevent the surface soil from parching, to purify the heated atmosphere, and refresh all animated nature. And it is remarkable that in the very hottest mid-days ever known there has never occurred a case of fatal sun-stroke in the State; nor, it may be added, such a thing as hydrophobia, even in the fiercest of the dog days. The thermometrical range for the whole year will not show anything approximate to the extreme changes which will occur in much lower latitudes on the Atlantic coast—and the first case of death from excessive cold weather has yet to be chronicled in Oregon. Indeed, the winter temperature is so uniformly above the freezing range that many farmers and stock raisers make no effort to house or provide shelter for their cattle during the inclement season, but allow them to graze or browse in the open fields or on the side hills.

Violent storms of wind, hurricanes, tornadoes, or gales severe enough to blow down forests, throw down barns or houses, and to devastate lands, have never swept this State. Three or four times since its early settlement by the whites, floods have washed portions of the upper valley, and the river bottoms, but the perils from such visitations are every year diminished.

The currency is gold and silver—greenbacks being used mostly for payment of Federal taxes, revenue, &c., and for the accommodation of those who prefer to carry them rather than bankers' drafts or checks when going out of the State. But in every day dealings, in shopping, marketing, and all monetary transactions, gold and silver coin is the circulating medium. The local banks—two in Portland and one in Salem—are sound, and hold high reputation not only in Oregon but all over the Pacific coast, and at the great money marts in the East. The ordinary rate of interest is from ten to twelve per cent.—the former being the rate fixed by statute. There is very little county scrip afloat, as nearly every county is entirely free from debt, and the State is in the same wholesome financial condition. The aggregate taxes, State, county and school—will not exceed fifteen mills on each dollar, and the State and county governments are administered on an exceedingly economical scale. The Constitution prohibits State banks of issue, and the First National Bank of Portland is the only institution in the State which has the authority to issue bank notes.

Upon the scenery of Oregon it is not the purpose of this article to dwell. *That* task has been quite amply and very well performed by the tourists who have visited the State during the past few years—albeit they have done little else. It will suffice here to remark that whether it be of lovely landscapes, charming vales, magnificent mountain views, picturesque hill and dale scenes, grand and rugged river scenery, majestic snow peaks, or the gorgeous sunrise or sunset splendors, neither Rhine nor Hudson, Ohio and St. Lawrence, Susquehanna nor Potomac; not the valleys nor hills, the mountains nor snowy summits of the famed scenic regions of the country beyond the Mississippi, can excel, in all these forms and phases of nature's beauties and wonders, the views presented on the Columbia and throughout this State—and we simply repeat what the tourists of the world admit in this respect.

As places for summer resorts—for the rich to pleasure in, for the million to taste the joys of a few days snatched from toil, or for the invalid to seek relief from ailings, or restoration of health impaired by disease, there are the noted Clatsop Plains, near the mouth of the Columbia, or the Yaquina Bay, coastwise from Corvallis, at either of which places a grand view of the broad Pacific can be obtained, and where sea-baths, oyster-catching, fishing or bird shooting are to be enjoyed; or the Warm Springs of the Molalla, or of the Blue Mountains, the waters of which are delightful for bathing and not unpleasant to the taste, besides being—so the doctors say—eminently beneficial to consumptives, debilitated, and those tortured by acute rheumatism and gout.

The catalogue of the leading and material features, characteristics and resources of Oregon have now been sketched, although imperfectly. That which the reader in other sections of the Union (who might possibly purpose immigrating hither) would care to know, perhaps more than anything so far described, is in reference to the farming-lands, the cost of living, and other attendant details. This branch of our subject can be treated in a brief but still quite satisfactory manner.

A large portion of the Willamette, Yamhill, Tualatin, Umpqua, Rogue River and Illinoise valleys, which contain the best farming lands in the State, were taken up by early settlers under the donation law of 1850—and as subsequently amended and extended in 1853 and 1854—by which each settler in good faith, and who had himself occupied the land for four consecutive years, was entitled to 640 acres, if he had a family, or 320 acres if a single man: By amendments this law was so changed that any person could purchase, after one year's residence, either 640 or 320 acres, agreeably to the condition he occupied as married or single, at the rate of $1 25 per acre. The law expired in 1855, and since that time, all lands taken up by settlers have been occupied and granted agreeably to the general pre-emption and homestead laws of the United States. Thus, in the portions of Oregon above mentioned, a large proportion of the land is held, subject to the old donation laws, in tracts of 640 and 320 acres. Unfortunately for the welfare of the commonwealth, these large tracts are owned, in many instances, by a class of men who seem to think the chief end of life is to obtain all the land possible and never to sell, rent, or allow its use to any other of their fellow men; and to cultivate only so much of all their vast possessions as will secure them support from year to year—say a patch of from thirty to fifty, or, in rare cases, one hundred acres. It is the avaricious grasping of rich lands, by this class of men, and their dog-in-the-manger conduct in retaining every foot they have located or have become possessed of, which has done so much to prevent a healthful and needed immigration here of the farming, working class of the old States, and in this and other important respects, retarded the growth, injured the prospects, and weighed heavily down almost every beneficial enterprise and project for the development of the natural wealth of the State, and the advancement of her citizens in the great onward march which so signally characterizes the American people, as foremost in all that invites blessings, creates wealth, assures plenty, and aims at securing contentment among every class.

Fortunately, on the other hand, however, it is manifest that, while this greedy and stubborn landocracy will neither sell nor lease their extensive surplus lands, the possession of them all must before long, in the economy of nature, fall into other hands—heirs or assigns—by reason of old age or infirmities which must inevitably carry off these lingerers on the last step of the down-hill of life. And in that not far off period a marked change will ensue in the improvements and benefits of agriculture. There are, notwithstanding these difficulties just recited, many available opportunities presented for the benefit of the skillful, industrious, frugal farmer in the valleys named, and in others equally as fertile, but more recently developed sections—in the Klamath and Goose Lake regions, and the extensive valleys of Eastern Oregon. Farms, with improvements of fair character, can be bought for from $8 to $20 per acre—tracts of from fifty to hundreds of acres, and which will readily yield from twenty-five to forty bushels to the acre of grain, or the equivalent in other crops. Or, good farms can be procured on rent, at easy terms, by those who can give a satisfactory guarantee of worth, and of skill in farm pursuits.

To workingmen, who prefer to seek employment in the cities, at trades or other occupations, Oregon presents a field not surpassed on the coast. Wages run from $2 50 to $5 00 per day for mechanics and artisans, and laboring men are paid $2 00 to $2 50 per day, or $25 to $35 per month and board. Board is had at the best hotels for $10 per week, and at good boarding houses at from $6 down to $4 per week. Comfortable dwellings, with snug garden spots, can be rented in Portland at from $15 to $30 per month, and persons who desire to practice economy at an aggregate cost, for rent, fuel, water, lights and everything, of from $50 to $100 per month, agreeably to the number they have in family. Firewood is cheap, only $3 50 to $5 per cord for fir, ash, or oak, delivered at the house. Clothing, dry goods, and all kinds of articles for wear, for household use, for consumption, or service in any respect, are to be had in the retail stores at very reasonable rates. The woolen fabrics of Oregon are equal to any in market, for service as well as appearance, and are better adapted to the requirements of the inhabitants than the fabrics brought from abroad.

Oregon wants and her citizens cordially invite immigration—not of the idle or reckless or non-producing classes. There are from good to most alluring attractions here for both capital and labor—for the man of useful enterprise who brings his wealth of gold, or for the man whose only capital is his mechanical skillfulness, his knowledge of the useful arts; his craft in all the branches of farming, or his strong arms and willing disposition to honorably earn the bread he eats by the labor he can readiest execute. To any of these we repeat Oregon offers conspicuous advantages. She has, here in Portland, a soundly organized and admirably conducted Immigration Aid Society, whose officers and members are prominent among the most substantial, the oldest, the most enterprising and best informed of our citizens, and of this society any who wish general or special information respecting any portion of the State, or of any capital or labor interests, can receive ready answers upon application either in person or by letter.

EUGENE CITY.—Is situated near the west bank of the Willamette river, near the center of the State, and is the county seat of Lane county. It was laid out as a town in 1853 by Eugene Skinner, from whom it derived its name. The chief resources of the county are farming and stock raising, for which it is noted as one of the best counties in the State. Eugene City contains a population of about 900, and has two schools well attended. The Odd Fellows and Masons each have a flourishing lodge here; there are six churches in the place, with four Sabbath schools, a commodious Court House, six fire proof buildings, nine dry-goods stores, two variety stores, one book store, two tin shops, five saloons, a brewery and distillery, three wagon shops, six blacksmith shops, two hotels and restaurant, one bakery, three drug stores, two jeweler shops, one paint shop, three cabinet making shops, two boot and shoe shops, one picture gallery, a tannery, a saddle tree manufactory, two saddle and harness shops, two meat markets, one furniture shop, one gunsmith shop and one cooper shop. We have nine lawyers and five doctors. Two weekly newspapers are published here, each having a job office. We have also three good livery stables. The population of Lane county is about 7,000. There are a saw mill, a grist mill and a machine shop near the city limits. Boats run to this point a portion of the season, but during the summer months cannot reach it—*Journal.*

A TALE OF A CAT.—A short time since a man cut down a tree on the premises of Mr. Augustus Prudhon, of this Township. In the hollow of the tree was found a nest of young squirrels. The squirrels, which had not yet opened their eyes, were taken to the house as a curiosity for the young folks. A cat was on the premises at the time with a litter of kittens about the age of the squirrels, and it was suggested that then a good opportunity presented itself to play a practical joke on Madame Puss. Three of the kittens were sent to that bourne from which no luckless kitten returns, and three of the orphaned squirrels were put in their place. Strangely enough the old cat did not seem to discover the deception practiced upon her, but took her foundlings and nursed and petted them as fondly as if they were genuine felines. As her adopted children grew in stature and began to exhibit a decidedly squirrel-like appearance, Madame Puss thought she "smelt a mice" about those strange, wayward children of hers, but just where the point to the joke was bidden, or in what particular "clause" of cat-dom was found a precedent for such bushy-tailed kittens, were mysteries which beat the old cat. As they grew older she tried in vain to initiate them into the mysteries of hunting; but alas! the wayward wards were all unmindful of that rarest of all sports for a happy kitten, catching a mouse! The little rogues were as full of mischief as kittens, but there the semblance ended. Great was the alarm of Puss when her pets ran briskly up a tall tree and leaped from branch to branch as reckless of their precious necks as if their poor old godmother was not mewing them earnestly to come into the house and act as good little kittens are wont to do. As the squirrels grew they became as familiar in the house as kittens, and afforded rare sport to those who watched the evident anxiety of Madame Puss as she watched the strange antics of her adopted children. Mr. Prudhon finally brought the squirrels to Nashua and they are now caged at the billiard saloon, while their eventful history is being woven into this singular tale of a cat.—*Nashua, Iowa, Post.*

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THE attention of persons contemplating insuring their lives, or increasing the amount of insurance they already have, is called to the special advantages offered by the NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE ADVANTAGES OFFERED
ARE:
It is a National Company, chartered by special Act of Congress, 1868.
It has a Paid-up Capital of $1,000,000.
It offers Low rates of Premium.
It furnishes Larger Insurance than other Companies for the same money.
It is Definite and Certain in its Terms.
It is a Home Company in every locality.
Its Policies are exempt from Attachment.
There are no Unnecessary Restrictions in the Policies.
Every Policy is Non-forfeitable.
Policies may be taken which Pay to the Insured their Full Amount and Return all the Premiums, so that the Insurance costs Only the Interest on the Annual Payments.
Policies may be taken that will Pay to the Insured, after a certain number of years, During Life, an Annual Income of One-Tenth the Amount named in the Policy.
No Extra Rate is charged for risks upon the Lives of Females.
Insures not to Pay Dividends, but at so low a cost that dividends will be impossible.

ITS POLICIES ARE NEGOTIABLE.
By the Charter of the Company, certificates of obligations will be issued, agreeing to purchase its policies at their value which, when accompanied by the policy duly assigned or transferred, are negotiable, and may be used as collateral security, in making loans from the Company or from other parties.

The Hon. Jno. E. Sanford, Insurance Commissioner of Massachusetts, in his Report for 1868, speaking of Dividends in Life Insurance Companies, says, "The sooner such guarantees cease to be made, and such expectations created, the sooner Life Insurance will come to rest on its true motive, and men insure their lives for security, and not for dividends. The best and the most popular companies will then be those that promise only equity, and render all that they promise, and furnish the best security, with the most up right and judicious management."

"By the Stock plan the full cash effect of the premium is immediately secured to the insured, the Company taking ALL the risk. By the Mutual plan, the full value in insurance of the premium paid, is not secured to the policy-holder, who takes a portion of the risk himself."

Policies Issued In
Gold or Currency.

WM. E. HALE, MANAGER.

WELLS, FARGO & CO.,
GENERAL AGENTS
FOR THE PACIFIC COAST.

J. C. MENDENHALL,
TRAVELING AGENT
For Oregon and Washington Territory.

Albany, September 11, 1869-1t4

ADVERTISEMENTS.

"GAY" NEWS.
Farmers Can Ride and Plow,
BY SECURING ONE OF THE
"GAY" PLOWS,
Manufactured and sold for the very low price of
$65 and $75.

THE simplicity and practicability of this new Plow commends it favorably to the special notice of every farmer. It possesses a decided superiority over all other plows now in use. The wheels are four feet in diameter, and run on the unplowed land. Its entire construction is in no way complicated. The plow is managed in every manner with ease, and requires only two levers to be used in making any alteration. The superiority of the "Gay" Plow will be clearly shown by the following certificate:

We, the undersigned, citizens of Linn county, Oregon, having purchased and used upon our farms the "Gay" Plow, hereby certify that the same has given us entire satisfaction. Its facilities for adjusting to suit the depth of furrow without moving from the seat, is simple and easy. We like the plow for its draught, because the same is brought to bear directly upon the plow-beam instead of the carriage; also, because it is strong and durable, all except the wood-work being constructed of wrought iron—no castings are used. The wheels running upon the solid land is an advantage over other gang-plows, in striking off land and in plowing, not having to make the necessary changes in the machinery, and the seat is always level, not throwing the driver forward or sideways as in other plows. Better work and more of it can be accomplished by the use of this Plow than by hand.

We take pleasure in recommending the "GAY" PLOW to our brother farmers, as one having no superior in Oregon.

J. G. REED, W. P. ESHOM,
A. S. LOONEY, E. W. PIKE,
W. H. GOLTTREE. H. DAVIDSON.
May 20th, 1869.

The "GAY" PLOW is manufactured by H. Goulding, Portland Machine Shop.

All orders will be promptly attended to by addressing,

C. F. GAY,
Portland, Oregon.

Albany Agents.
J. BARROWS & CO., Agents for Linn & Benton counties.
JOHN BRIGGS, Agent for Linn & Benton counties.
May 22, '69-37

THE OLD
STOVE DEPOT!
JOHN BRIGGS,
DEALER IN
STOVES, COOK, PARLOR & BOX,
of the best patterns!
—ALSO—
Tin, Sheet Iron and
Copper Ware!
and the usual assortment of Furnishing Goods to be obtained in a
TIN STORE!
Repairs neatly and promptly executed, on reasonable terms.
"Short reckonings, make long friends."
Front street.....Albany.
Next door to Mansfield & Co.
dec5'68-12

BLACKSMITHING!
PLOWS! PLOWS! PLOWS
THE undersigned gives notice to the general public, that he is now manufacturing the
Galesburg Patent Plow!
and any other style of plow that may be ordered. Also, particular attention paid to
Horse Shoeing, Wagon and Darriage Making,
and General Jobbing.
All work entrusted to me will receive prompt attention, and be executed in the best possible manner with good material. A share of public patronage is solicited.
Shop on corner Ellsworth and Second streets, opposite Pierce' Ferry. F. WOOD.
Albany, November 21, 1868-1f

CRAFTSMEN'S
LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY
OF NEW YORK.
BUCHANAN & MEARS,
GENERAL AGENTS FOR
Oregon, and Washington, Idaho and Montana Territories,
PORTLAND.....OREGON.

Cash Plan, Low Rates, Strictly Mutual.
All Policies Non-Forfeiting by their Terms.
No Restriction on Travel, Residence or Occupation.
Policies issued in Gold or U. S. Currency, as desired.
No extra charge upon women.
All varieties of Policies issued.
Large Cash Value upon Surrendered Policies.
E. S. MERRILL, Agent,
oct9-5 Albany, Oregon.

For Sale.
HOUSE AND FOUR LOTS!
IN this city, a good new dwelling with all the necessary outbuildings, and four lots, about twenty minutes walk from the steamboat landing. For particulars inquire at the office of the P. T. Company, of J. B. MONTEITH.
Albany, January 30, 1869-

USE MURRAY'S IMPROVED MAGIC Oil—the King of Pain. Ju5-39tf

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NEW ENGLAND
MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.
OF BOSTON.
Purely Mutual.
INCORPORATED 1835.

Cash assets	$7,000,500 00
Cash Dividend, 1867	526,573 55
Cash Dividend, 1868	786,197 86
Total surplus dividend	3,512,771 00
Losses paid in 1868	575,500 00
Total losses paid	3,342,100 00
Income for 1867	2,852,031 41

No extra charge for traveling to and from the Atlantic States, Europe, Oregon, or the Sandwich Islands.

All Policies non-forfeiting, and governed by the non-forfeiting law of Massachusetts,

Policy holders the only persons who receive dividends in this Company, which are declared and paid annually; first dividend available at the payment of the second annual premiums. All Policies remain in force as long as there is any surrender value.

NO FORFEITURES!

This old and popular Company, (the oldest Mutual Life Insurance Company in this country) insures at the lowest possible rates.

The stability of this Company, with its past history, increasing capital and business, and the satisfactory manner in which it has discharged its obligations in the past, are guarantees for the future such as far-seeing and careful men require in their investments.

Persons generally, who thoroughly understand the workings of Life Insurance, are anxious to avail themselves of its equitable provisions.

Full information will be given to those who desire, at the Agency.

Home Office, 39 State Street, Boston.

Pacific Branch Offices,
302 Montgomery Street, San Francisco.

Room 3, Carter's Building, Portland, Oregon,
EVERSON & HAINES, General Agts.
RUSSELL & ELKINS, Agts,
ALBANY, OREGON.
Albany, September 19, 1868-2y

1869-70.
Albany Collegiate Institute.

THE NEXT TERM OF THIS INSTITUTION for youth of both sexes, will open on
Monday, the 13th of October next.
It will be in charge of the Rev. EDWARD R. GEARY and Rev. SAMUEL G. IRVINE, assisted by a corps of competent teachers.

CALENDAR.
The first term will embrace 15 weeks of tuition, ending February 4th, 1870.
The second term will embrace 20 weeks of tuition, from February 7th to July 1st, 1870.

RATES OF TUITION
(PER QUARTER OF TEN WEEKS.)
Preparatory and common branches.....$5 00
Advanced English.....7 00
Ancient and Modern Languages, Higher Mathematics, &c.....9 00
Tuition charged from date of entrance to end of quarter, and payable in advance.

Organization of College Classes.
A Freshman class will be formed and a course of study prescribed at the opening of the term.

Principal Text Books.
Wilson's Readers, Clark's English Grammar, Robinson's Mathematics, Hooker's Natural Science, Quackenbos' Rhetoric, Abbott's Abercrombie's Mental and Moral Philosophy, Harkness' Latin Series, Fasquell's French Series, and the most approved editions of the Latin and Greek Classics.

A Record
Of every recitation will be made, and an average given in Quarterly Reports; also, of attendance and deportment.

Government.
The aim will be to develop in the student a high sense of moral obligation, honor and integrity, and those who cannot be governed by such motives, will not remain in the school.

Board
May be had in families at $4 per week, and rooms procured where students may board themselves.
By order of the Board of Trustees.
EDWARD R. GEARY,
Albany, Aug. 21, '69-50 President.

"ON TO HIT!"
WADSWORTH & KUHN
Are now ready to execute all kinds of
Plain and Fanc